

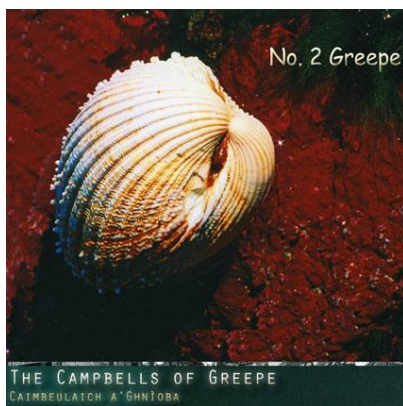
Watercolour Music at Showcase Scotland

Fàilt' oirbh do Ghlaschu agus do dh'fhèis Cheltic Connections - welcome to Glasgow and to Celtic Connections!

*Watercolour Music is Scotland's most highly regarded residential recording studio – based in the idyllic setting of Ardgour in the West Coast Highlands and run by musician and broadcaster **Mary Ann Kennedy** and her producer-writer husband **Nick Turner**.*

The studios, overlooking Ben Nevis on the shores of Loch Linnhe, have played host to so many of Scotland's great roots and acoustic musicians – Blazin Fiddles, Julie Fowlis, Fiddlers Bid, Paul McKenna, Rua MacMillan, Norrie MacIver, Margaret Stewart, Lorne MacDougall, Kathleen MacInnes, to name but a few.

*This year's Showcase Scotland features no less than three of our own 2014 projects and releases and we'd love you to hear them while you're in Glasgow. Please join us for an exclusive **Watercolour Music Delegates Reception at CCA, Sauchiehall St on Saturday 25th from 12 noon til 1pm** to toast some new album arrivals!*

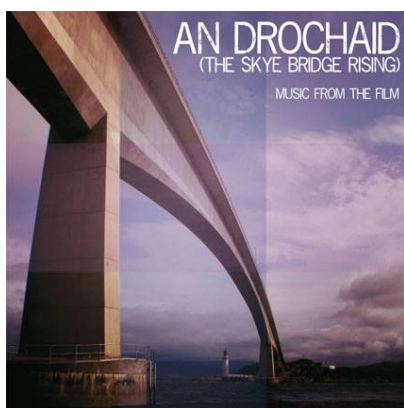


Music from [**The Campbells of Greepe**](#), the 'first family' of Gaelic song, whose brand-new album '[**No. 2 Greepe**](#)' is a highly anticipated follow-up to their Sunday Times and Songlines chart-topping debut, 'Fonn'.

Young Scandi-Scottish duo [**Marit and Rona**](#) will also be playing a couple of sets to celebrate their debut album, '[**Turas**](#)', making the connections between their native traditions in Sweden and Highland Scotland.



*This tantalising taste of **The Campbells of Greepe**'s music will be just enough, we're sure, to make you want to check out the concert set at CCA that same night, **Saturday 25th at 8pm** – when the family will be joined by a powerhouse band including Lorne MacDougall, Euan Burton, Finlay Wells and dancer supreme, John Sikorski.*



*We're also delighted to be associated with a 'Festival First' – a unique collaboration between Celtic Connections and the Glasgow Film Festival for the World Premiere of **'An Drochaid – The Bridge Rising'**. This cinema release documentary by **media co-op** on the civil uprising that led to the abolition of tolls on the Skye Bridge features a glorious soundtrack written by Canadian composer Scott Macmillan and produced by Watercolour Music. Do join us for the screening at the **Glasgow Film Theatre (GFT1), Sunday 26th** which will also feature live music from producer **Mary Ann Kennedy, Scott Macmillan** and Cape Breton fiddler **Colin Grant**, as well as two of Gaeldom's great musicians – and veteran bridge campaigners - **Arthur Cormack** and **Dr Angus MacDonald**.*

*We will be around the festival for the whole weekend, but especially at the Trade Fair at the **Old Fruitmarket, Friday 24th 10am-2pm**. Please come and visit us at our Watercolour Music stand to find out more about The Campbells, Marit and Rona and **An Drochaid**.*

You can contact us at any time: Mary Ann Kennedy on 07918-618374 or mak@watercolourmusic.co.uk and Nick Turner on 07918-618375 or nick@watercolourmusic.co.uk. We look forward to seeing you in Glasgow!

*Le meas is dùrachd
Mary Ann & Nick at Watercolour Music*

Marit Fält and Rona Wilkie



Turas (Watercolour Music WCMCD051)

Preview Released 06/12/2013

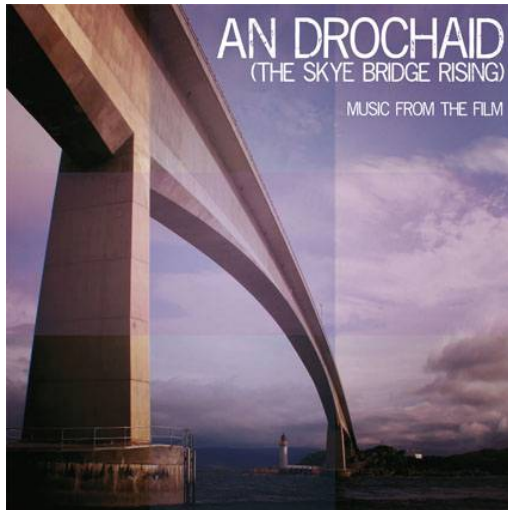
The debut album from [Marit Fält and Rona Wilkie](#) on Watercolour Music melds tunes and songs from their Highland and Scandinavian to create a new music that's uplifting, daring and harmonious. 'Turas' explores the common ground between their Swedish and Gaelic backgrounds with a unique voice - playful, borderless - gliding through evocative, near-classical movements and elegant polskas to buoyant reels, via the virtuosity of Rona's fiddle and Marit's Nordic låtmandola.

Winners on the same night 2012 of the coveted Danny Kyle Award at Glasgow's Celtic Connections Festival and BBC Scotland Young Traditional Musician of the Year, Marit and Rona have been quietly working away on this gorgeous debut on Watercolour's Stòras imprint, which supports innovation and creativity in new Gaelic music and writing.

Joining them on several tracks are the bewitching percussion of Allan Òg MacDonald and the deliciously sweeping strings of the Cantilena Quartet – playing Marit and Rona's own arrangements. The album was produced by Nick and Mary Ann for Storas Watercolour.

The album will be previewed at the **Showcase Scotland** trade expo at Celtic Connections in January and will be officially released on 24th February with tour dates to be announced soon. www.maritandrona.com

Various Artists



An Drochaid (Watercolour Music WCMCD055)

Preview Released 18/12/2013

Watercolour Music had a unique opportunity at the beginning of the year to work with Canadian composer [Scott Macmillan](#) on his soundtrack for the BBC ALBA TV documentary charting the history of the long and ultimately successful public campaign against tolls on the Skye Bridge. The feature-length version of the film will be premiered at **Celtic Connections** in January, in a first-time collaboration with the **Glasgow Film Festival**. The screening takes place at the **Glasgow Film Theatre** on **Sunday January 26th** with live music from some of the protagonists of the film joining Mary Ann, Scott and Cape Breton fiddler **Colin Grant**, one of the lead musicians on the soundtrack.

Once again, tickets are going fast, so book now at www.celticconnections.com or 0141-353-8000.

The soundtrack album will be officially released on Watercolour Music on 27th January, and will also be available through [Online Shop](#).

Na Trads

[Alasdair MacIlleBhàin](#) (Alasdair Whyte) is nominated for Gaelic singer of the year, with a wonderful debut album on Watercolour to his credit - **Las** - the first release on our [Stòras Watercolour](#) imprint, encouraging and supporting emerging Gaelic musical and writing talent.

'The best debut album from a Gaelic artist in years, **Las** is a beautiful, beguiling and irresistible mix of tradition and innovation. Alasdair writes with rare depth and integrity. Eloquent, impassioned and powerful, **Las** is a landmark recording.' *Kevin MacNeil (Love and Zen in the Outer Hebrides, A Method Actor's Guide to Jekyll and Hyde)*.

One of the bonuses of that particular album is the beautifully matched vocals of **Robert Robertson** backing Alasdair on several of the tracks, with a duet sound inspired by Rufus Wainwright & David Byrne and classic Italian folk duos of the 50s.

Robert is also nominated in this year's awards in the Up and Coming category - small wonder for the voice of the west coast ceilidh powerhouse [Skipinnish](#) and of course this year's Mod Gold Medallist.

Studio News Autumn 2013

[Rona Wilkie and Marit Falt](#) have just about wrapped things up for their debut CD. Release date is set for later this year and the record is out on Watercolour Music who have produced it for [Storas Watercolour](#).

The [Music Plus](#) project came to a very successful conclusion with a host of Watercolour recordings making it to the cut. We have just learnt that the project is set to continue for next year.

The latest EP from [Hot Feet](#), produced by the inestimable [Pete Roe](#) should be dusting off the shelves soon.

The [Campbells](#) latest Cd (No 2 Greepe) is at the mix stage and is set for release early next year. Produced by the luminescent [Jerry Boys](#) Check out The Campbells pages for further news.

Great debut Cd on the way from Manx gaelic singer and musician [Ruth Keggan](#). "Sheear" features guitarist Dave Pearce, double bassist Vanessa McWilliam, flautist and sean nós singer Eoghan O'Ceannabháin and fiddle player Tomas Callister.

[Mary Ann](#) has started her solo album. "Glaschu - Songs of the Glasgow Gaidhealtachd " got off to a wonderful start by recording a live session of the Wiyos with Mary Ann in Belfast's Red Dog Studios run by fiddler luminary Dónal O'Connor.

Upcoming studio sessions include the wild men of [Saur Patrol](#) and in contrast the rather more convivial [Ken Campbell and Linsey Aitken](#).

"Fonn-The Campbells of Greepe"

(Music and a Sense of Place in a Gaelic Family Song Tradition)

10/2013

The recently published book on the history and song tradition of the renowned Gaelic musical family, the Campbells of Greepe, has been named the Gaelic Book of the Year at the Royal National Mod in Paisley. 'Fonn: The Campbells of Greepe' is an account of the history and Gaelic song tradition of the family of Sabhal Mòr Ostaig's Musician in Residence, Mary Ann Kennedy.

The book tells the story of the Campbells who belong to Greepe on Skye, and how they have, for generations, helped to preserve the Gaelic traditions and songs of Scotland and numbered among the very finest of Gaeldom's singers. The family, past and present, boasts no fewer than seven Mod gold medallists, and three of those have achieved the coveted 'Mod double', by claiming the Gold Medal and the Traditional Gold.

The book is based on interviews with family members conducted by broadcaster and SMO lecturer Morag Stewart, and includes pictures from the family albums, family trees, maps of the area of Skye they came from, press cuttings and record cards. 'Fonn' is bi-lingual and contains a CD featuring rare recordings of older family members, including some from the archives at the School of Scottish Studies dating back to the 50s.

Speaking of the award, Mary Ann Kennedy said: "This is not only a great honour for the family and our music, but also a fitting recognition of the community of Roag in north-west Skye who we wanted to represent through the book - without them there would be no songs. And the songs continue: work on the second album from the Campbells, which will be released in the New Year, began at Sabhal Mòr Ostaig as part of my residency, and the music reflects the opportunity we were given at the college. We are delighted to have this connection with SMO."

Donnie Munro, Sabhal Mòr Ostaig's Director of Development, Fundraising and the Arts, commented: "The Directors and staff of Sabhal Mòr Ostaig, are absolutely delighted to note the richly deserved honour which this award confers upon Mary Anne and the whole Kennedy/Campbell family, for producing an immensely important body of work and a such wonderful, rich, cultural heritage resource. It is particularly pleasing that Mary Anne, during a highly productive period as Musician in Residence at Sabhal Mòr Ostaig, has been able to continue her own personal development and research as a musician, producer and collector and that this in turn will result in the release of further recorded material featuring the Campbells of Greepe, a family which occupies a quite remarkable place in the history of Gaelic song."

The award was part of the Mod's Literature Day and the book is published by Acair Ltd. For more information on the book visit <http://www.acairbooks.com>





Red Box Studios

Belfast with The
Wiyos

Sept 2013



Bruce Molsky House Concert



**WATERCOLOUR MUSIC WELCOMES
'TRANSATLANTIC SESSIONS' MUSIC LEGEND**

IN CONCERT

Watercolour Music

Ardgour, Fort William

May 26th, 3pm

Details

Lochaber's top recording studio opens its doors next month to give music fans a one-off opportunity to listen to an American old-time music legend play in the unique and intimate setting of Watercolour Music.

In this, Watercolour's only House Concert this summer on the 26th May, Bruce Molsky, a native of the Bronx with his musical heart in the Appalachian Mountains, will be showcasing music from his brand new solo album, 'If It Ain't Here When I Get Back'.

Bruce has a world reputation as the finest exponent of old-time fiddle, and he combines this with his rich baritone voice for a fiddle-singing style he has made his own. His love affair with the music of Appalachia started as a teenager in New York, but he served his time at the feet of the masters during many years in Virginia, whilst working as an engineer, learning from great tradition bearers such as Tommy Jarrell.

He decided to take the 'leap of faith' and turned professional at the age of forty – and he's never looked back, playing worldwide with bands such as Donal Lunny and Andy Irvine's Mozaik, and as a first-call guest every year on the legendary 'Transatlantic Sessions'. His musical tastes, however, are wide and he's as likely to include a Swedish waltz or Romanian Hora in his performance as an old-time reel or field holler.

Co-director of Watercolour Music, Mary Ann Kennedy said: "We are truly delighted to welcome our good friend Bruce to Lochaber. We had decided to take a break from the concerts as my role as musician-in-residence at the Gaelic college, Sabhal Mòr Ostaig, in Skye this year meant I couldn't devote as much time to the preparation needed to make the gigs a success. But this was a chance we couldn't pass up – don't miss out!"

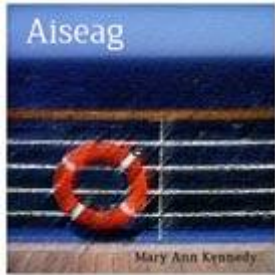
Bruce Molsky said: "Scotland holds a very special place in my heart, and the Highlands especially – I love the connection that still exists between the music and the people. I've had the pleasure of recording at Watercolour before, it's the perfect venue for a gig like this – and I might even persuade Mary Ann up for a duet!"

Watercolour Music have hosted House Concerts, an American innovation which allows artists to play smaller, laidback gigs between larger venues, for the past four years, welcoming artists such as Väsen, Mount Desolation, Rachel Sermanni and Fred Morrison to

play in their purpose-built studios, packed out for the occasion. The Sunday afternoon gigs are very relaxed affairs and all are welcome.

Bruce's concert takes place on Sunday, 26th May at 3pm and booking is strongly advised by emailing info@watercolourmusic.co.uk

Mary Ann Kennedy Lands Major Commission for 2014 Games



Details

One of the country's best known radio broadcasters - Mary Ann Kennedy, who is also a well-respected musician, writer and composer – is to be at the heart of a major new commission for the 2014 Commonwealth Games.

A native of Glasgow, who is a recognised authority on World Music and regularly presents shows for the BBC, she is to team up with Canadian composer, Canadian Scott Macmillan, acknowledged internationally as a leading creative force, to produce the work, which will also involve Ardgour-based audio designer Nick Turner and include lyrics from poet Aonghas MacNeacail from Carlops.

They will work together on a collaborative composition for classical and traditional musicians and electronica, with real-world installation/intervention that will be given four scheduled UK performances.

The announcement came at the official launch of the PRS Foundation's New Music Biennial commissions for the 2014 Commonwealth Games, in London. The project is one of twenty UK-wide, all of which will link up through international partnerships to provide a flagship element of next summer's celebrations.

Watercolour Music, the Ardgour-based operation which she runs with her partner, (Nick Turner) will be the commissioning body for 'Aiseag' (The Ferryboat), involving musicians and singers from the Highlands, Glasgow and Nova Scotia, electronica and "found" sounds gathered from places and sources on both sides of the Atlantic.

Ferry-boats fascinate Mary Ann and have been a constant in her life - as a solution to geographical barriers and offering a vital contact point in scattered communities, transporting news and information as well as people and goods.

The work will celebrate their importance in two rural Commonwealth communities -- the Highlands and Islands of Scotland and the diaspora of Nova Scotia, Canada.

A classically trained harpist, pianist and singer, and a member of one of the great dynasties of Scottish Gaelic music, The Campbells of Greepe, Mary Ann is currently musician-in-residence at Sabhal Mòr Ostaig, University of the Highlands and Islands.

She studied at the RSAMD and RNCM, where she was the first harpist to be awarded highest performance diploma, and is one of the most successful choral composers and directors in contemporary Gaelic music, credited with many innovations which have brought the genre into the 21st Century.

Speaking after the launch at the Southbank Centre today (Friday), she said she was thrilled to have won the opportunity to create new music for the Biennial - and get the chance to work with all those involved.

“My journey started today aboard our local Corran Ferry in Ardgour and I look forward to our final destination at the Games in my hometown, Glasgow,” she said.

** All enquiries/further information/pics from Loudon Temple at Bloodygreatpr - info@bloodygreatpr.com*

Tel: 01505 706346 / Mob: 07831 878013



Casg Foillseachaidh – CHAN FHAODAR FHAOILLSEACHADH NO CHRAOLADH RO 10.30m., Dihaoine, 26 Giblean

Bidh aon de phrìomh chraoladairean agus luchd-ciùil na dùthcha – Màiri Anna NicUalraig – aig deis-meadhain coimisean mòr ùr airson Geamannan a’ Cho-fhlathais 2014.

Tè a rugadh ’s a thogadh an Glaschu fhèin – tha ainm aice airson a h-obrach ann an saoghal Ceòl na Cruinne, agus a tha cliù aice dha-rèir airson a cuid ciùil agus sgrìobhadh – bidh i ag obair cuide ris an sgrìobhaiche-ciùil Canèidianach, Scott Mac a’ Mhaoilein airson an obair ùr a thoirt gu bith, agus bidh an Dealbhaiche Fuaim Nick Mac an Tuairneir às Ard Ghobhair agus am bàrd Aonghas MacNeacail à Carlops cuideachd a-sàs.

Bidh iad ag obair uile còmhla air an obair a bheir còmhla ceòl clasaigeach, dualchasach is eileactronach, le fuaimean air an togail bhon t-saoghal mhòr a-muigh a- bharrachd, agus thèid a chur air làr ceithir tursan ’s a’ chiad dol-a-mach am Breatainn.

Chaidh an naidheachd fhoillseachadh ann a' Lunnainn, aig taisbeanadh oifigeil Biennal Fonndas a' PhRS airson Geamannan a' Cho-fhlaitheis 2014. Tha am pròiseact mar aon de dh'fhichead tro Bhreatainn gu lèir a bhios a' dèanamh cheangalan thall-thairis, agus a thig còmhla as t-samhradh an ath bhliadhna mar aon de phrìomh fhèilltean nan geamannan.

Thèid an coimisean, 'Aiseag', a stiùireadh tro Watercolour Music, an gnìomhachas cruthachail a tha Màiri Anna a ruith còmhla ri a cèile, Nick Turner, agus bidh luchd-ciùil bhon Ghàidhealtachd, Glaschu agus Albainn Nuaidh a' cur a' chiùil air làr, le ceòl eileactronach is fuaimean eile a chaidh a thrusadh bho gach taobh dhen Chuan Siar air fhidhe a-steach dhan obair.

Bha Màiri Anna riamh air a beò-ghlacadh le bàtaichean agus na h-aiseagan gu seachd àraid, agus tha iad mar phàirt de a beatha làitheil fhèin – eadar a bhi na meadhan siuhail agus na dhòigh air daoine ann an coimhearsnachdean sgapte a tharraing còmhla agus air naidheachdan a sgaoileadh a' cheart cho math ri sluagh no bathair.

Nì an obair ùr luaidh air àite nan aiseagan ann an dà choimhearsnachd iomallach dhen Cho-fhlaitheas – Gàidhealtachd na h-Albann agus sliochd nan Gàidheal ann an Albainn Nuaidh an Canada.

Fhuair Màiri Anna – aon de theaghlach iomraiteach ciùil Caimbeulaich a' Ghnìoba – àrd-oideachadh ann an ceòl clasaigeach bho aois glè òg. Tha i an-dràsta ag obair mar Cheòladair na Colaiste aig Sabhal Mòr Ostaig, an Oilthaigh na Gàidhealtachd 's nan Eilean.

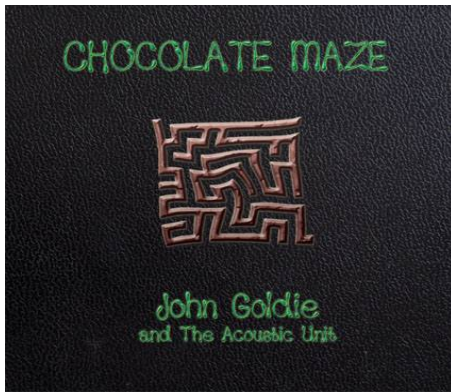
Bha i na h-oileanach san RSAMD agus an RNCM am Manchester, far am b' i a' chiad chlàrsair a choisinn an teiseteanas a b' àirde a bha ri fhaighinn ann, agus tha i cuideachd air cliù a chosnadh mar stiùiriche agus sgrìobhaiche do chòisirean Gàidhlig.

Thuirte Màiri Anna 's i a' bruidhinn as dèidh an fhoillseachaidh aig an Southbank Centre ann a Lunnainn an diugh (Dihaoine), gu robh i gu mòr air a dòigh an cothrom seo fhaighinn ceòl ùr le Gàidhlig aig cridhe gnothaich a chruthachadh dhan Bhiennal, agus obair leis an sgioba gu lèir.

“Thòisich mo thuras an diugh air bòrd ar n'aiseag fhèin – aiseag a' Chorrain an Àrd Ghobhair – agus tha fiughair orm ceann-uidhe a ruigheachd ann am baile m' àraich, Glaschu, an ath bhliadhna”, thuirte i.

****Gheibhear tuilleadh fiosrachaidh, dealbhan is m.s.a.a. bho Loudon Temple aig Bloodygreatpr - info@bloodygreatpr.com F: 01505 706346 / F-L: 07831 878013***

John Goldie New Band CD - Chocolate Maze



John Goldie

and The Acoustic Unit

Chocolate Maze

" acoustic guitarist extraordinaire" *The Scotsman*

" the guitarist performs a virtuosic turn" *The Herald*

Details

The latest live studio CD from one of Scotland's most gifted acoustic guitarists. His fifth studio album for the Highlands-based Watercolour Music and the second with his band "The Acoustic Unit". Featuring Jim Drummond (drums and percussion), Duncan Lyall (bass) and Angus Lyon (accordion and keys).

Thirteen new studio tracks from the band whose previous release was described as "confident, assertively performed and startlingly different". To launch the CD, they will be performing a few choice cuts at the Scottish Music Information Centre, City Halls, Glasgow on Thursday 11th April at 6pm. Free Entry.

Recorded and produced at Watercolour Music's with John Goldie's regular producer, Nick Turner, the CD continues the eclectic Highland label's passion for 'live' studio recording.

Reviews

Lanarkshire-based guitarist John Goldie provided the music for the BBC's comedy series Dear Green Place a few years ago and there are several tracks on this fine new album that could appeal to television producers looking for catchy theme tunes.

Goldie is a guitar-toting everyman and the range of musical styles featured here reflects his ability to sit in and fit in wherever he finds himself, whether that's Road Trip's gypsy-swing-bossa (reminiscent of Goldie's time with Martin Taylor's Spirit of Django), Overcast's soul ballad style, MacFerry's pinging bluesy shuffle, Her Ladyship's Dance's medieval measure, the proggy Sting in the Tail or the insistently catchy hoedown, Time Trance.

Accordionist-keyboardist Angus Lyon, bassist Duncan Lyall and drummer Jim Drummond form a tight, matey pack on the band numbers while Goldie's worldwide travels as a solo guitarist are reflected in the superb Here and Now, all gentle harmonics and impish pitch bends, and the fingerbustin' Chase, with its echoes of Adrian Legg's virtuosic country twang.

From The Sunday Herald, May 26, 2013.

Reviewing this under “folk” is stretching things slightly. Master guitarist John Goldie, here in the company of Highland music stalwarts Angus Lyon on accordion and keyboards and bassist Duncan Lyall, plus drummer Jim Drummond, careers across genres with gleeful abandon, opening with a flourish of Lyons’s accordion for the European-sounding Too Close to the Campfire and tailing off with a perky reprise of the slightly cod Americana of Line Trance.

In between, Goldie, playing mainly but not entirely acoustic guitars, gives the impression of thoroughly enjoying himself, whether in the sassy bossa of Road Trip, the near ambient languor of the title track, the waspish guitar lines and bluesy shuffle of MacFerry or the unabashed rock guitar strains of Sting in the Tail.

In contrast, my own favourite is the easeful drift and sweetly whining note-bending of Here and Now.

• **Jim Gilchrist, From The Scotsman, May 26, 2013.**

For more information please contact [Nick Turner](#) or [John Goldie](#)